

1 30. (New) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the tubular members comprise  
2 structural supports.

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1 31. (New) The method of claim 8, wherein the tubular members comprise  
2 wellbore casings.

1 32. (New) The method of claim 8, wherein the tubular members comprise  
2 pipes.

1 33. (New) The method of claim 8, wherein the tubular members comprise  
2 structural supports.

3 34. (New) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the tubular members comprise  
4 wellbore casings.

1 35. (New) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the tubular members comprise  
2 pipes.

1 36. (New) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the tubular members comprise  
2 structural supports.

1 37. (New) An expandable tubular assembly, comprising:  
2 a pair of tubular members having threaded portions coupled to one  
3 another; and  
4 a quantity of a sealant within the threaded portions of the tubular  
5 members;

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6 wherein the sealant is selected from the group consisting of epoxies,  
7 thermosetting sealing compounds, curable sealing compounds,  
8 and sealing compounds having polymerizable materials;  
9 wherein the sealant includes an initial cure cycle and a final cure cycle;  
10 wherein the sealant can be stretched up to about 30 to 40 percent  
11 without failure;  
12 wherein the sealant is resistant to conventional wellbore fluidic  
13 materials;  
14 wherein the material properties of the sealant are substantially stable  
15 for temperatures ranging from about 0 to 450 °F; and  
16 wherein the threaded portions of the tubular members include a primer  
17 for improving the adhesion of the sealant to the threaded  
18 portions.

1 38. A method of coupling an expandable tubular assembly including a  
2 plurality of tubular members having threaded portions to a preexisting  
3 structure, comprising:  
4 applying a primer to the threaded portions of the tubular members prior  
5 to coating the threaded portions of the tubular members with a  
6 sealant;  
7 coupling the threaded portions of the tubular members;  
8 initially curing the sealant;  
9 positioning the tubular members within a preexisting structure;  
10 radially expanding the tubular members into contact with the  
11 preexisting structure; and  
12 finally curing the sealant after radially expanding the tubular members;

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13 wherein the sealant is selected from the group consisting of epoxies,  
14 thermosetting sealing compounds, curable sealing compounds,  
15 and sealing compounds having polymerizable materials;  
16 wherein the primer includes a curing catalyst;  
17 wherein the sealant can be stretched up to about 30 to 40 percent after  
18 curing without failure;  
19 wherein the sealant is resistant to conventional wellbore fluidic  
20 materials; and  
21 wherein the material properties of the sealant are substantially stable  
22 for temperatures ranging from about 0 to 450 °F.

1 39. A method of coupling an expandable tubular assembly including a  
2 plurality of tubular members having threaded portions to a preexisting  
3 structure, comprising:  
4 applying a primer to the threaded portions of a first group of the tubular  
5 members;  
6 applying a sealant to the threaded portions of a second group of the  
7 tubular members;  
8 coupling the threaded portions of the first and second groups of tubular  
9 members;  
10 initially curing the sealant;  
11 positioning the tubular members within a preexisting structure;  
12 radially expanding the tubular members into contact with the  
13 preexisting structure; and  
14 finally curing the sealant after radially expanding the tubular members;

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15 wherein the sealant is selected from the group consisting of epoxies,  
16 thermosetting sealing compounds, curable sealing compounds,  
17 and sealing compounds having polymerizable materials;  
18 wherein the primer includes a curing catalyst;  
19 wherein the sealant can be stretched up to about 30 to 40 percent after  
20 curing without failure;  
21 wherein the sealant is resistant to conventional wellbore fluidic  
22 materials; and A  
23 wherein the material properties of the sealant are substantially stable  
24 for temperatures ranging from about 0 to 450 °F.

1 40. An apparatus, comprising:  
2 a preexisting structure; and  
3 a plurality of tubular members having threaded portions coupled to the  
4 preexisting structure by the process of:  
5 applying a primer to the threaded portions of the tubular  
6 members prior to coating the threaded portions of the  
7 tubular members with a sealant;  
8 coupling the threaded portions of the tubular members;  
9 initially curing the sealant;  
10 positioning the tubular members within the preexisting  
11 structure;  
12 radially expanding the tubular members into contact with the  
13 preexisting structure; and  
14 finally curing the sealant after radially expanding the tubular  
15 members;

16 wherein the sealant is selected from the group consisting of  
17 epoxies, thermosetting sealing compounds, curable sealing  
18 compounds, and sealing compounds having polymerizable  
19 materials;  
20 wherein the primer includes a curing catalyst;  
21 wherein the sealant can be stretched up to about 30 to 40 percent  
22 after curing without failure;  
23 wherein the sealant is resistant to conventional wellbore fluidic  
24 materials; and  
25 wherein the material properties of the sealant are substantially  
26 stable for temperatures ranging from about 0 to 450 °F.

41. An apparatus, comprising:  
a preexisting structure; and  
a plurality of tubular members having threaded portions coupled to the  
preexisting structure by the process of:  
applying a primer to the threaded portions of a first group of the  
tubular members;  
applying a sealant to the threaded portions of a second group of  
the tubular members;  
coupling the threaded portions of the first and second groups of  
tubular members;  
initially curing the sealant;  
positioning the tubular members within a preexisting structure;  
radially expanding the tubular members into contact with the  
preexisting structure; and

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15 finally curing the sealant after radially expanding the tubular  
16 members;  
17 wherein the sealant is selected from the group consisting of  
18 epoxies, thermosetting sealing compounds, curable sealing  
19 compounds, and sealing compounds having polymerizable  
20 materials;  
21 wherein the primer includes a curing catalyst;  
22 wherein the sealant can be stretched up to about 30 to 40 percent  
23 after curing without failure;  
24 wherein the sealant is resistant to conventional wellbore fluidic  
25 materials; and  
26 wherein the material properties of the sealant are substantially  
27 stable for temperatures ranging from about 0 to 450 °F.

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Applicant authorizes the Commissioner to charge any fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No.08-1394 of Haynes and Boone, L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Box NON-FEE AMENDMENT, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on February 13, 2001

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